AUDIT & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN ROOM #318 PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512

Members: Chairman Castellano and Legislators Ellner & Gouldman

Monday 6:30pm November 27, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Chairman Castellano who requested Legislator Gouldman lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call Legislators Ellner and Gouldman and Chairman Castellano were present.

Item #3 – Acceptance of Minutes – October 12, 2023 Budget Mtg.

The minutes were accepted as submitted.

Item #4 - Correspondence/County Auditor

- a. Sales Tax Report Duly Noted
- **b. Board In Revenue Report** Duly Noted
- c. 2023 Contingency Report Duly Noted
- d. Transfer/Revenue Report Duly Noted

Item #5 - Discussion/ Request to Edit Budgetary Amendment & Fund Transfer Forms

Chairman Castellano made a motion to waive the rules and accept the additional; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

Commissioner of Finance Michael Lewis stated he worked with County Auditor Michael Sharkey to find the best report to provide. He stated they were able to find a decent report. however there is no option to print when viewing the report. He stated the provided example relates to item #7 on this evening's agenda, Fund Transfer 23T352. He stated it is his understanding that the requested information relates more to Budgetary Transfers and Fund Transfers than to Budgetary Amendments. He stated a Budgetary Amendment has an offsetting appropriation with revenue or vice versa. He referred to the example fund transfer and stated it is transferring funds for chargeback gasoline from one account to another. He stated this type of transfer is done with the analysis of the Fiscal Manager in the department. He stated the report provided shows the original and revised accounts. He stated there are some accounts that are fluid such as vendor accounts from where payments are made on a regular basis. He stated in order to have the most up to date data, the report would have to be run right before the Committee Meeting where the fund transfer is being reviewed. He stated the report itself is very cumbersome and can only be printed by screenshotting the page. He stated this specific fund transfer had eight budget lines on it, necessitating 8 reports to be run, screenshotted, and printed.

Legislator Ellner stated when he brought this idea forward he was hoping it would not be cumbersome on the Finance Department. He stated if the software is incapable of generating and printing the report easily, it may be more trouble than it is worth.

Commissioner Lewis stated each fund transfer and budgetary amendment goes through a workflow, which provides safeguards. He stated a department cannot just move funds between accounts without going through the proper process.

Legislator Ellner stated his intention was less about a concern over safeguards and more an interest in having more information when making a decision.

Commissioner Lewis stated if a Legislator had a question about a specific account a report could be run at that point.

Chairman Castellano stated the Finance Department and Audit Department are always accessible to answer questions. He stated generating these reports for every fund transfer would be too cumbersome.

Item #6 - Correspondence/ Commissioner of Finance

- a. Overtime/Temporary Report Duly Noted
- b. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 23A066/ Dept. of Social Services/ Contract Renewal to Child Advocacy Center/ Other than Personnel Costs (Also reviewed in Health)

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor.

c. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 23A068/ Putnam County Golf Course/ Operational Funding through Year End (Also reviewed in Physical)

Commissioner Lewis stated this is recognizing the year-to-date surplus revenues and adjusting the budget accordingly.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor.

d. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 23A069/ Health Dept./ Use of Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Act (ATUPA) Fines (Also reviewed in Health)

Commissioner Lewis stated surplus revenues are being recognized and utilized to fund supplies, materials, and miscellaneous items related to this program.

Chairman Castellano stated this is not taxpayer money; it is fines collected from violations.

Legislator Sayegh stated these ATUPA funds are increasing due to the rampant violations being found in Putnam County. She stated a great place to spend the money collected from these fines is to educate children and teenagers about the negative side effects of tobacco use.

Chairman Castellano questioned how the fines are collected.

Commissioner Lewis stated the Health Department collects the fines.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

e. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 23A070/ DPW/ Additional Funding to Respond to Flood Damage from July Storm (Also reviewed in Physical)

Chairman Castellano stated this money should be reimbursed by FEMA.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor.

f. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 23A071/ Sheriff/ Dept. of Social Services/ Use Awarded Funds for Full Time Mental Health Clinician as part of Police & Mental Health Co-Response Team (Also reviewed in Personnel)

Commissioner Lewis stated this is a \$400,000 grant the County was able to obtain. He stated this is year 1 of this budgetary amendment, some costs are prorated between year 1 and year 2 and there are some implementation costs that effect year 1.

Legislator Crowley thanked Commissioner of DSS Sara Servadio and Sheriff Kevin McConville for their work on this. She stated this will have a such a positive impact on our community.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

g. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 23A073/ Health Dept./ Optimize Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Act Grant by Increasing Compliance Checks on Sale of Vaping & Tobacco Products to Minors

Commissioner Lewis stated this budgetary amendment is for the State grant portion of the ATUPA funds.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor.

h. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 23A076/ Dept. of Social Services/ Utilize Opioid Settlement Trust Monies to Fund Evidence Based Programs and Strategies

Commissioner Lewis stated there are \$720,000 of opioid settlement monies to be distributed, there was an RFP process and there was a Committee who vetted the applications. He stated based on those recommendations, money will be allocated to organizations working to eradicate opioid abuse.

Legislator Sayegh stated she was on the Committee, they reviewed and scored each application, however they did not participate in how much would be allocated to each organization. He stated the programs were to focus on co-occurring disorders; mental health issues paired with opioid abuse.

Legislator Addonizio stated the County will continue to receive payments from the opioid settlement and questioned what the total amount the County will be receiving is.

Commissioner Lewis stated payments will be made to the County through 2039. He stated he does not have the exact number, but it will be a few million dollars. He stated he received a notification today that the amount distributed by the LGU (Local Government Unit) is going to be \$450,000 for 2024. He stated he is currently working on a schedule that he will provide to the Committee.

Legislator Sayegh requested clarification on where the money is coming from, as she believes there is two (2) pots of funds.

Commissioner Lewis stated money is coming from the opioid settlement and the LGU abatement funds.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

i. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 23A077/ Planning Dept./ Distribution of NY & CT CRRSAA (Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act) and NY & CT ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) from NYMTC (New York Metropolitan Transportation Council regarding Federal Transit Funding for FFY 2023

Commissioner Lewis stated he has worked with the Commissioner of Planning Barbara Barosa to correct the books and recognize these buckets of money. He stated this one in particular was a resolution from NYMTC for the fiscal year 2023. He stated this adjusts that budget to be used for future projects.

Commissioner of Planning Barbara Barosa stated this is specific to transit. She stated NYMTC is essentially the transportation planning organization for this metropolitan area.

She stated they distribute all the money from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and this budgetary amendment is allocating the relief money Putnam County received. She stated the funding is geared toward operations and maintenance of the transit facility and will replace the utilization of tax dollars for this purpose.

Legislator Ellner questioned why the attached backup material references a resolution from 2018.

Commissioner Barosa stated the MTA (Metropolitan Transit Authority) and the listed counties reached an agreement in 2018 on the percentage of the share of the overall amount that comes to this area. He stated at that time, it was agreed upon that Putnam County would receive 0.2%. She stated this is based on population and the size of the transportation fleet.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor.

j. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 23A078/ County Attorney/ Cover Legal Services through Year End/ Litigation Settlement/ Haughey v. County of Putnam

Legislator Ellner questioned if the litigation settlement would be considered separately.

Commissioner Lewis stated one (1) budgetary was created for both legal services and the litigation settlement.

Eric Gross, Reporter, questioned if Chairman Castellano is at liberty to speak about the litigation settlement.

Chairman Castellano stated the settlement has not yet been approved by the Full Legislature; it will be considered at the December 5, 2023 Full Legislative Meeting.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

k. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 23A080/ Planning Dept./ Utilize CRRSAA & ARPA Funds to Purchase & Install Automatic Passenger Counter on Transit Vehicles

Commissioner Barosa stated currently, passengers are manually counted by the bus drivers who write down the data and then someone in the office tabulates it into a spreadsheet daily. She stated they are required to report on the number of passengers to the State and Federal Government. She stated these counters will make it much easier.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

I. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 23A081/ Planning Dept./ Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Grant Award of \$1,602,090/ Maybrook Bikeway II Phase/ Rolling Stock Purchases of 2 Hybrid Bus Trolleys, Transit Bus, 4 Passenger Vans & Project Administration

Commissioner Barosa stated they applied for this grant in May. She stated the County received the grant and this budgetary amendment creates budget lines for the funding.

Chairman Castellano questioned what Maybrook Bikeway II Phase includes.

Commissioner Barosa stated it is the missing piece of Bridge 5 in Brewster.

Chairman Castellano stated he believed that bridge was owned by the MTA.

Commissioner Barosa stated it is, however Putnam County has a 100 year lease with MTA for the bridge. She stated because the County is building the bikeway, we are responsible for correcting the deficiencies in the construction.

Chairman Castellano stated it is a beautiful old bridge and it will be a great addition to the bike path.

Commissioner Barosa stated it is fully designed and they are close to going to bid.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor.

m. Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 23A082/ Planning Dept./ Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Grant Award of \$750,000/ Maybrook Bikeway II Phase A & Project Administration

Commissioner Barosa stated this was a grant from the summer of 2022 but was not included in the budget once awarded.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

Item #7 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 23T352/ Sheriff/ Gasoline Chargeback for 3rd Quarter and Projected 4th Quarter (Also reviewed in Protective)

Chairman Castellano made a motion to approve Fund Transfer 23T352; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

Item #8 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 23T362/ Emergency Services/ Hazmat Team Supplies (Also reviewed in Protective)

Chairman Castellano made a motion to approve Fund Transfer 23T362; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

Item #9 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 23T363/ DPW/ Load Bank Tests Needed for Generators (Also reviewed in Physical)

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

Item #10 – Approval/ Fund Transfer 23T404/ Sheriff/ Annual Maintenance Contract to Securitas (Also reviewed in Protective)

Chairman Castellano made a motion to approve Fund Transfer 23T404; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

Item #11 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 23T407/ Sheriff/ Highway Chargeback for 3rd Quarter and Projected 4th Quarter

Chairman Castellano made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

Item #12 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 23T417/ Office for Senior Resources/ Replace Desktop & Laptop Computers

Chairman Castellano made a motion to approve Fund Transfer 23T417; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

Item #13 - Approval/ Fund Transfer 23T421/ Sheriff/ Purchase 7 Mobile Mounted License Plate Reader (LPR) Systems for Trailers

Sheriff Kevin McConville stated the Sheriff's Department receives a lot of requests for speed data and analysis relevant to speed enforcement. He stated utilizing a mounted LPR will provide this information and can aid in criminal investigations. He stated these will be deployed regularly throughout the County at "hot spots".

Legislator Crowley questioned if this will replace a deputy having to monitor an area in response to complaints of speed.

Sheriff McConville stated an officer will still respond to any call that comes in. He stated better information including time, speed, and specific offenses will be provided. He stated instead of having a deputy in the area for eight (8) hours, this technology will provide the analysis and data which will then be used for enforcement.

Legislator Crowley thanked Sheriff McConville. She stated it is a better use of the deputies' time.

Chairman Castellano made a motion to approve Fund Transfer 23T421; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

Item #14 - Other Business - None

Item #15 – Adjournment

There being no further business at 7:09pm, Chairman Castellano made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Administrative Assistant Beth Robinson.